



# THE GARZETTE



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

## The President's Pen

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



I would be woefully remiss if right off the bat I didn't thank all those that made the annual **GARS** picnic a great success. First of all my hat is off to Marty Fowler, KE4MLH. When we first started talking about the picnic he told me he would take care of it and boy did he ever. He was our contact to the Parks and Recreation department that secured the site for the event. He purchased the meat and made sure that someone was going to purchase the soft drinks and have them there. He also organized the cooking crew, which turned out to be the set up crew and the clean up crew.

Let me also thank Lewis Eberhardt, KE4QOV and Jenny Eberhardt, KE4QNE who let Marty and company come out to their place and do the overnight

job of cooking the hams. Sue and I went out there to visit them and there was Terry Lewis, KD4VHY and Pam Lewis, KD4YHJ working away, not only did they help in the cooking chores but they took Marty's shopping list for the basting sauce and did the shopping. Chip Grant, KE4EOS and Joan Grant KE4QBE were helping out as was our good friend Larson Watts, KF4HLH. **GARS** secretary Bill Ahls, KE4EIH was there to do his usual early morning shift on the cooking while the rest of the crew got some sleep.

There were several others that helped out as well, Kevin McClure, KF4HFN took time on his day off to buy the soft drinks and make sure they got to the picnic. Suzanne Farr and John Farr, KD6CLO made sure there

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## GARS Ham Of The Month Kevin McClure KF4HFN

This months' Ham of the Month is Kevin McClure, KF4HFN. Several members of the club have recommended that I talk with Kevin and now I know why. Kevin was a very interesting interview and I think he and I must have talked for about an hour and a half or so. I found that we have some mutual interests.

Kevin was born in Chicago. He attended grade school there and later his family moved to Wisconsin. Kevin moved to Atlanta in 1979 while in the 10th grade. He graduated from Dunwoody High School and was only one of three in his class to actually buy his own car!!

Kevin's introduction to ham radio was actually earlier in life. At the age of 12. His grandfather gave him an old Hal-



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## GARS Field Day Event Results

by Pickett Cummins, AD4S

Total QSO Points	7,770
Last years Points	4,846

Catch The 'STATS' on Page 3

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## THE GARZETTE

**THE GARZETTE** is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to ad4pz@aol.com or by posting a private message on the SA BBS (770) 903-6789, to Joe Biddle in the GARS conference. Use the Save Attached command and mark the security to receiver only. Art can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as an unencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer.

**Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.**

**GARZETTE** Editor  
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Thanks to Art Smith, KE4MQX for providing the printing services each month. Rita Biddle, KE4WVW gets the stamps and makes sure the newsletter gets to the post office each month.

My thanks to all of them for their help in producing **THE GARZETTE**.

All correspondence relating to articles posted in **THE GARZETTE** or for information concerning advertisement rates for **THE GARZETTE** should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
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Attn: Newsletter Editor

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## ARES SkyWarn

By Lowry Rouse, KM4Z



Even though Field Day was a planned event with non-emergency conditions to install antennas and equipment, it still proved that hams can come together and install a working HF/VHF/UHF station(s) and communicate with the world. This yearly event has many different meanings for amateurs. Some like the competitiveness of making contacts, some like just getting together with the group and "eyeball ragchewing", new hams usually love to get with a field day group and operate with the "old timers", and some like the practice of setting up a totally self-sufficient working radio station with the purpose of emergency communications in mind. When a disaster does happen within Gwinnett Co., or Metro Atlanta for that matter, I'm confident that we'll (ARES/SKYWARN) be able to set up communications for whatever the situation may be.

For those who may be a little more into the weather forecasting hobby than watching the local news station, here are a few of the weather related websites I've found: Weather Channel {[www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)}; Ga. Skywarn page {[www.geocities.com/Bourbon-Street/1180](http://www.geocities.com/Bourbon-Street/1180)}; National skywarn page {[www.skywarn.org](http://www.skywarn.org)}; Ga. ARES page {[www.mindspring.com/~gaares/index.htm](http://www.mindspring.com/~gaares/index.htm)}; I could go on with many additional address's but just go to the "links" pages and you'll find many more interesting sites to visit. Anyone interested in putting together one of these new weather stations being advertised in the magazines?

If any of the ARES/SKYWARN members were concerned about being sued while participating in emergency work, you can relax a "wee bit". In May, both houses of Congress passed "The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997." It still awaits the President's

signature though. Legally speaking this means volunteers of nonprofit organizations (ARES) and government entities will "generally be relieved of liability for harm caused if the volunteer was acting within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities." Now in real life, this bill has to be signed and then of course the loop holes pass the scrutiny of the legal community. Well at least the problem is being thought about and now that it's up for review, I'm sure something good will come out of it. Anyway for now, just keep in mind that you're not 100% protected whether acting on your own or for an organization.

The annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test will be held Oct.4-5. That's right before our advanced Skywarn class is to be conducted. I'll talk more on this event next month. By the way, our advanced Skywarn spotter's class date has been CHANGED from Oct. 7th to Oct. 16th due to scheduling problems. Please plan on attending. Yes, this is on a GARS club meeting night and has been approved by Ike (KE4GYM).

Well, that's all for this month. Remember the Monday night nets at 9pm and check in when you can. Check out Mike Campbell's (KF4HLM) 2 meter emergency station below.





## 1997 Field Day Stats

by J. Pickett Cummins, AD4S

For the benefit of those who missed the last GARS meeting, the following statistics are provided.

ITEM	1997	1996	%INC
Class	7A	5A	
No. Operators	67	43	55.8%
Assumed Score	7,770	4,846	58.9%
Total Contacts	2,216	1,378	60.8%
CW Contacts	669	345	93.9%
Phone Contacts	1,547	1,033	49.8%

Most Contacts ARRL Section	NTX - 126
Most Contacts-State	TX 268
Most Contacts with Station	AD4S 11

No. States Worked	49 (we missed Alaska)
No. ARRL Sections Worked	75 (out of 77 total)
Best DX	Australia (N4JON)

Most Contacts	K4HS -	292
Most Phone Contacts	K4HS -	274
Most CW Contacts	W4NVF-	222
Most QSO Points	W4NVF-	465
Most ARRL Sections	K4HS-	59
Most Novice Station Contacts	KF4HLF	51
Best Handwriting	K4JON	
Worst Handwriting	W4NVF	
Most Duplicate Contacts	KF4NBD	
Most Invalid ARRL Sections	K4HS	



**August meeting program will be  
Rocketry  
and  
Amateur Radio  
by  
John Kemker, KF4MZD.**

### Win a \$25 HRO Gift Certificate!!



THE EDITOR'S DESK

**The Editor (AD4PZ) Suffers from something that this issue reveals. Once you've discovered it notify him either by Phone or Email (also listed). Express your sympathy, and make sure you tell him what it is he suffers from. A drawing of those submitting will be held for the certificate.**

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Frank Deak, AF4Y (770)978-6546

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## ...GARS Ham Of The Month

(Continued from page 1)

licrafters receiver and Kevin became a short-wave listener. Kevin took a radio course while in junior high school and his instructor was an amateur. Being deeply involved in the Boy Scouts, Kevin found that he did not have a lot of time to devote to radio and never pursued his ticket. As an Eagle scout, Kevin was picked from an elite group of scouts to attend

Philmont Scout Camp in Cimmaron, New Mexico. This is one of the highest honors a scout can receive, so you can see how serious scouting was to Kevin.

After high school, Kevin was still interested in radio but still did not pursue his ticket. He gained employment with Kroger and worked for them for two years. After that, he was hired by Scripps-Howard Cable of Dekalb County as an installer. Kevin was the model for the movie "The Cable Guy", but unfortunately that role went to Jim Carrey.

(I am just kidding!!). Kevin was promoted from installer to service technician and then was promoted to Maintenance Technician. After working there for four years Kevin went to work for Cable Advertising of Atlanta which was part of Wometco, which is now renamed MediaOne. Kevin was in charge of setting up and coordinating local ad insertion commercials. In "show biz" that means he programmed the automated equipment to switch from network programming to local commercials and back to network at the proper time.

In 1989 Kevin met someone who shared the interest in short-wave radio. They talked about ham radio and decided they would get their tickets at the same time. The other guy did and became N4XZV, but Kevin never got the chance to take the test.

In the summer of 1995, Kevin met an old friend that he hadn't seen in a while. That was Rick, KD4MQR. Rick inspired Kevin to "get off his butt" and go for his ham license. Rick told Kevin, "Here you are, responsible for 60 transmitters, all on the air at the same time. You should be able to pass at test to operate one, shouldn't you?" Well, that got Kevin busy. He joined GARS later that year and got to be good friends with the club membership. He finally attended his no-code class under the wings of Steve Adler and Larry Osborne - KD4QFD. Kevin passed his test and became KF4HFN. Kevin is currently working on his code speed and plans to soon take the 5 WPM test to become a full Technician.

Equipment wise- Kevin is ready! He has a Yaesu FT-430 HF rig and a 10 meter dipole. He also owns an ICOM 2350 dual bander, a couple of Yaesu FT227's and a FT 530 HT. Kevin is also capable of working amateur television. He has a modified Scientific-Atlanta exciter and works 70 centimeters and 1.2 gigahertz.

Kevin is married to Tonya and they have a son who will be 2 later this month. Happy Birthday, Sam!! They recently moved from Auburn, Georgia to Monroe. I was expecting Kevin to cite his reason for the move as something about being closer to his office, but if the truth be known, it was because Monroe is a better "ham radio" location. Always thinking ahead, isn't he? While Kevin works for MediaOne, Tonya is vice-president for Household and Social Domestic Affairs.

Kevin has another hobby that is also a very good business. He has around \$30,000 invested in disc-jockey equipment and a record collection of over 700. He frequently

does parties and other functions and provided the music at last years GARS Christmas Party. His first job as a disc-jockey came at the age of 8 when he borrowed his dad's square dance amplifier and mike. He made \$50 that night. Quite a decent salary for an 8 year old!!

Kevin has been a member of GARS since 1995, plans on teaching a no code class and enjoys being a member of our club very much. He says he is especially impressed with the friendliness of the membership and the closeness we all share with each other. Kevin is an active member of the club and can be heard on the repeater almost daily as he is out and about in his MediaOne cruiser. We all owe a big "thank you" to Kevin, as he was in charge of our generated power at this years field day. We operated the entire time with no interruptions at all. And Kevin has the quietest generators I've ever not heard. Great job, Kevin!! It was a pleasure to conduct this interview with Kevin. He's a real likable guy and a definite asset to our club. Give Kevin a call on the repeater and let him know we appreciated what he contributed to Field Day. Till next month....73!

Karl, N4JON

### Equipment for SALE

#### Yaesu FT-767GX

- All HF bands - 100 watts
- All mode - SSB, CW, FM and FSK
- 2 meter - 10 watts - all mode
- option - add modules for 440 and 6 meter
- Automatic antenna tuner
- Built in Power Supply
- CW filter - 600 Hz
- Original manual and Shop manual
- Asking \$1100

Cheryl, AE4HN  
(770) 995-5159



## ...The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

were plates, napkins, cups, and eating utensils on hand for everybody. Junior O'Kelly, KE4VWN and "Bubba" Menshew, KE4YZS made and ice run on Saturday morning after breakfast so that we all had nice cold drinks to enjoy.

I was really pleased to see such a good turnout on a hot and humid day. I never took a head count but I would guess we had over 100 people come out and join us. I'd like to thank all those that made it out there and brought some really tasty food to go with the barbecue. If for some reason you weren't able to make it you really missed some good food and good fellowship. Marty and I have already discussed some plans for next year's picnic so try not to miss the 1998 version.

Speaking of have a good time and good fellowship, don't forget our weekly **GARS** family breakfast. We have a great time and it's a good opportunity to get to know other club members better and meet some of their family members. If you've got the chance on a Saturday morning come out and join us. We've been meeting at the same location for some time now and I know that it's time to find a new spot if we can. I've said all along that I would be open for suggestions but we have to meet some requirements. On an average Saturday we have around 25 or 30 people there, so we will need a place that will accommodate at least that many on a regular basis with room to grow. We also would like to have a place that we can arrange the tables so we can all sit together and a place that won't be perturbed if we're there for a couple of hours. We talked to managers over the new IHOP in Lawrenceville but they already have such a business on Saturday morning's they can't accommodate us. We also want to pick a spot around Lawrenceville, since that is pretty much central located in the county and we want to stay with it for awhile. The great advantage there is that

everyone knows where we'll be and can drop in and join us. So if you've got any ideas about a new breakfast spot, give me a call and we'll get together and check it out.

As I said last month, it's time to plan activities for the remainder of the year. I would like to do at least one radio demonstration (more if we can) but we'll have to wait on that until the weather cools down a bit. A couple of years ago we tried putting on a radio demo at the K-mart on Pleasant Hill Road in August. Those of us that were there did all we could not to melt into the pavement and we had very little traffic. Everyone seemed to want to scoot from their air-conditioned car to the air-conditioned store and didn't want to talk about ham radio, or I suspect not anything else either, in that heat. We learned our lesson but we will have cooler weather soon and we need to make plans now so we'll be ready. If you got an idea about a radio demo location or some other activity please give me or Marty, KE4MLH a call (our numbers are on page 3).

At the last meeting I asked for several volunteers and I'm happy to say that someone has stepped forward to fill all those requests. Susan Swiderski, KF4PNW is going to be our new **GARS** apparel chairman taking over from Suzanne Farr. Gene Gach, KF4NOG has volunteered to coordinate the "Talk with Santa" program that we're going to work on with the folks from the Alford Memorial Radio Club. Ray Giannetta, KF4SBZ stuck his hand up to head up a work part at Snellville to repaint the repeater shack. Jack Herndon, KS4LS will be taking over the **GARS** email list as part of the membership services that the club provides. And last but certainly not least, Mark Kozma, KD3GC has agreed to chair the Field Day committee for a second year. Thanks to all of them for stepping forward to assist the club.

One of my themes this year

has been to get the membership involved and to see a lot of different people involved in club activities. While we've succeeded to some degree, we still can get more people active in different activities and club functions. If you see something you'd like to be a part of, let me know or get in touch with that particular chairman and he/she will be glad to get you started. If you've got an idea on a club function or activity, be sure to call me or one of the other officers and talk to them. That's exactly how Rookie Radio came about when Cheryl McClure, AE4HN had an idea and wrote a letter to Howie Gould, W4NVF who was then **GARS** president. That letter and her idea were the basis on one of our success stories. That same sort of idea is out there in our club right now so if you've the one with let us know so **GARS** can help you get it rolling.

One last thing before I sign off this month, John and Suzanne Farr are expecting the imminent arrival of their first harmonic and as you read this I'm sure it's already happened. John and Suzanne have been a significant part of **GARS** since joining the club. At most every event one or the other or both have been there and been a contributor to the effort. John has been our packet guru and Suzanne took on the task of apparel manager, email list manager and Christmas party chairman of a committee of two (her and John). We will certainly see less of them over the next few months as they adjust to their new family and I for one will miss them. While they're not disappearing on us or moving away, we have to expect them to be busy with the new arrival. I want to take this opportunity to thank both of them for their support and all their work, both for **GARS** and for me personally. Thanks guys, it's folks like you that make this job much easier.

◆◆◆



# WELCOME! NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming our new GARS Members:

## Joined at the July meeting:

AB4DV Jay Pound  
W4IA Ron Davidson

## Joined during the GARS Picnic:

KB0BH Larry White  
KA4ZZG Pat Elrod  
K4UOZ Raymond Elrod, Jr.

Regards,

Jack - KS4LS  
Membership

## Club Meeting Program Ideas

I downloaded a list of actual programs that several clubs put together in their efforts to pool resources. The topics and speakers varied widely. Once in a while I'll print some of those ideas for you the club member to look over and perhaps find an appealing subject that you can request from the appropriate officer(s) to see if GARS can get such a program. I have the list in it's entirety available upon request.

### Topic: APRS

Comments: Richard explained how the APRS network links information from GPS receivers and other ources via packet radio.

### Topic: Scanner Monitoring

Comments: Public, private 2-way radio in anytown and the hobby of scanner monitoring. Rich publishes the Scanner Master Guide and other State Scanner guides.

### Topic: Gliders and Radio Control

Comments: Bruno exhibited a beautiful glider and a prototype of a radio controller. He also prepared a series of posters to explain the workings of radio controlled airplanes.

### Topic: Battery Technology for the Amateur

Comments: Talk covers lead acid and gell cell batteries, and battery chargers. Dennis presented this talk at anytown.

## Happy Birthdays

within

**GARS**

by Jack Herndon, KS4LS

## September Birthdays

AD2Q	David	Rife	September,17
AD4ZZ	Toshikazu	Watanabe	September,10
AE4CQ	Vincent	Hrabosky	September,12
K4BSE	Jim	Farmer	September,14
KA4ATM	Robbie	Robertson	September,12
KE4YLB	Mark	Collins	September,19
KA4USZ	John	Goza	September,10
KD4MQR	Rick	Head	September,09
KE4KQB	Waldo	Marsh	September,21
KE4QFW	George	Lankford	September,29
KF4HLF	Carter	Wood	September,16
KF4HLH	Larson	Watts	September,05
KF4KDD	Norman	Pollard	September,20
KF4KDG	Lynette	Black	September,12
KF4MZI	Michael	Westberry	September,15
KF4NBI	Tom	Fredrickson	September,11
N0MMA	Guy	West	September,03
N4HNH	Douglas	McAlexander	September,13
W1WRX	Lou	Spada	September,11
WB1EZK	Pierre	Decatrel	September,03
WB4ZTH	Jim	Glaeser	September,13
KC4ZTP	Mike	Brooks	September,27
N4NIA	Spyros	Kosmetatos	September,30

## GARS Electronic Mail List



If you have an EMail address and have not yet registered it with the club and wish to do so, please send a message to Suzanne Farr and request to be added to the list.

Send to: [suzannefarr@juno.com](mailto:suzannefarr@juno.com)



**From Susan, KF4PNW**  
**our new**  
**APPAREL MANAGER**

---

**GARS Clothes and Stuff:**

**Golf Shirt (White only)**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$24.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$28.00

**Tee Shirt (White or Red)**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$20.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$20.00

**Light Weight Jacket (Red only)**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$31.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$35.00

**Heavy Weight Jacket (Red only)**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$41.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$45.00

**Sweat Shirt (White or Red)**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$30.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$30.00

**GARS Logo Call Sign Badges**      \$ 8.00

**Baseball Style Hats:**

**White:**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$ 8.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$12.00

**Red:**

w/o Name & Call Sign      \$10.00  
with Name & Call Sign      \$14.00

**Contact:**

KF4PNW Susan Swiderski at (770) 449-0369 or  
K4HBI Mike via email -> swiderski@lucent.com



**CQ -- CQ -- CQ**

**All G.A.R.S.**

**Cooks and Chefs**

**De KE4KPV**

I am collecting recipes from each and every G.A.R.S. member, spouse or harmonic. Please include your QSL card, if you have one, for proper credit. If you do not have a QSL card, that is okay, I'll work around it. My goal is to have at least one recipe for each member of our club, or over 300 recipes. I'll compile these recipes into a GARS Ham Cook Book of sorts, to be used as a revenue maker or just an useful cook book to GARCS (Gwinnett Amateur Radio Cookers Society). These recipes need not be limited to "HAM" recipes, but that is an idea. I would like to get everything from Breakfasts to Desserts.

Please send your recipe and QSL card to:  
KE4KPV, c/o G.A.R.S., PO Box 88, Lilburn, GA 30046  
Thank you, and 73 de KE4KPV; John Sokol



# GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY 1997 FIELD DAY

Where over 180 Visitors Called GARS Field Day

"The Event"















## Electricity - Fact or FRICTION

by Bill Cummins

Submitted by Pickett, AD4S

### WHAT IS ELECTRICITY ?

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity? And where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool, dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches us that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others \*unless\* we need to learn an important electrical lesson. It also teaches us how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons", which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpets so they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travels down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

Amazing electronic fact: If you scuffed

your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have shag carpeting. Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no

place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a severe electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job

running the Post Office. After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have now become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These Pioneers con-

ducted many important electrical experiments.

Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond just like a normal frog, except for the fact that it now sinks like a stone.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the phonograph record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple

(Continued on page 10)

## Look Who's Talkin

Here are a few log entries from different hams who have had recent Radio contacts. This should show the few of us with little or no experience that contacts even now at our so called sunspot low are plentiful. Check them out and give a call for CQ on a band, you never know who'll return your, "Seek You".

Compiled by Karl Phillips, N4JON

Date	Local Station	Other Station	Band	Mode
7/5/97	AD4PZ	AB4KK	10	FM
Comments	1st ever 10 meter FM Repeater contact to Alabama			
7/27/97	AD4PZ	VP9KK	10	FM
Comments	Bermuda contact via a Boston, MA 10 meter repeater.			
7/31/97	W4NZJ	CO2OJ	6	SSB
Comments	Oscar broke into our Monday night 6 meter net when the 6 meter sporadic			



## Rookie Radio

By Carter Wood, KF4HLF

Hamfests are one of the great things about our hobby. They are a fun combination of a swap meet, a convention and a reunion. You can get some great bargains, learn new things, and meet old friends. Even a Rookie knows the people that were in his class or testing session. Here's the benefit of my limited experience. Maybe it will abbreviate your learning curve.

The first fun thing about hamfests is finding them.. There's a list in QST magazine every month and there are flyers at club meetings. This is helpful information but only if you decipher the locations. The Stone Mountain fest is in Lawrenceville. Greenville's is in Anderson. Athens has one but it is in Watkinsville. The Grandfather of them all (they say) is not at Grandfather Mountain but in Shelby, NC. The Dayton fest (I'm told) is so big that it goes from Kettering to almost Lima, Ohio. You figure. Anyway they all have a talk-in service with one poor soul who answers the same four questions all morning long. Its another chance to use your 2m on something other than your home repeater.

Here's the first good idea - Don't go to a hamfest by yourself. Tag along with an experienced ham.. He'll have fun teaching you things and you will get a

LOT more out of the trip. My Elmer and I like to make one quick tour of the whole place, then concentrate on the specifics. That way we know which dealers are there and basically where everything is. Being prepared on pricing is another good point. Rely on your OM or get one of the publishing listings. Amateur Radio Trader is good and so is Ham Price Guide. These resources tell you about what things should sell for but they are only a guide. Sometimes folks either don't know what their stuff is worth or maybe they are desperate. At Charlotte last spring, for instance a set of Kenwood twins went for only \$175 - that's a steal. Assume that every price quoted is just the starting point for some fun negotiations. Its bad form to not haggle. That's why some of the veterans come. Know what

you are shopping for and then use my personal tried and true method of 'Buy low and sell high'. Hamfests are at the heart of capitalism. Remember always that once it is complete, every deal is a bargain and both the buyer and seller will probably fib about the dimensions of the deal.

Almost every hamfest has VE exams and seminars. The tests are a very good way for you to gamble on an upgrade of your license without everyone at home knowing how well you did. I don't know if test results are confidential information but it sure does get passed around a lot. I've never flunked a test but I'd prefer not to have my failures shared. The seminar topics are always very interesting. They range across the whole field of the hobby. I went to one on QRP once but I couldn't hear much. Maybe they weren't talking loud enough.

Try out the classes at a hamfest. Know what you want and what you should pay. I just wish they had better chow.

◆◆◆

### Random Ramblings

An applicant had a hard time with his general license examination.

He was asked:

"What does the Aurora Borealis mean?"

His response:

"It means I don't get the license!!!"

### GARS Membership Application

P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, GA 30226

Amateur Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership: ☐ Individual ☐ Family ARRL Member Y/N: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Lifetime Y/N: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional members for Family Memberships	Callsign	Class	Birth Date	ARRL	ARRL Life
_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	[Y][N]	[Y][N]
_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	[Y][N]	[Y][N]
_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	[Y][N]	[Y][N]

Interests: ☐-Class Instruction ☐-Field Day Operations ☐-Repeater Maintenance ☐-GARS Booth Staffing ☐-Emergency  
☐-Community Events ☐-Administrative ☐-Fund Raisers ☐-Other \_\_\_\_\_



## JULY Meeting Minutes

by Bill Ahls, KE4EIH - Secretary

Officers in attendance: President Ike Chapman, KE4GYM; Vice President Larry Osborne, KD4QFD; Secretary Bill Ahls, KE4EIH; and Treasurer, Randy Drescher, K4HS.

The meeting was called to order by President Chapman on July 17, 1997, at 19:30 local time at the Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville. Introductions were made by 73 members and visitors.

Announcements in need of volunteers at this time are: the GARS apparel position, so Suzanne Farr may have her baby. Steve Burel, AD4LY, volunteered to take over the GARS email list. Ray Kaplan, KA9GJL, volunteered to head up the painting at the Snellville site. Manuel Dominguez, KF4RLZ, Odelio Banuelos, KF4RMB and friend Manuel volunteered to put a new roof on the Lawrenceville repeater generator building. Advanced and General Class Amateurs may volunteer to help with the VEC test session on the fourth Friday. Please call Howie Gould, W4NVF.

The Treasurer report was approved as presented by Randy, K4HS. The minutes for the June meeting were approved as published in the Garzette.

GARS picnic is July 26 at Tribble Mill Park. Members are asked to bring a covered dish. Food to be served about noon and a "fox hunt" about 11:00 AM.

The new change of zip code for everyone does require an FCC change of address. GARS PO Box is now PO Box 88, Lilburn GA 30048.

Membership, Sue Chapman, presented 2 applicants for membership in GARS. Motions were made and seconded to accept the applicants as presented and passed without opposition. The new members of GARS are: Jay Pound, AB4DV, and Ron Davidson, W4IA.

The program this evening featured Field Day comments and thanks to everyone in the field day effort by Chair Mark Kozma, KD3GC. Mark said he would like to chair Field Day 1998. Pickett Cummins, AD4S, informed the club of many of the statistics and GARS records made during field day. GARS made 2267 contacts with 51 duplicates toward 2216 contact for points. Points total 7770 compared to 4846 last year. All records improvements over last year.

The GARS challenge awards presented by Carlton McPherson, WA4ZUW. The 100 VHF/UHF GARS Challenge was awarded to Carlton McPherson, WA4ZUW. The GARS participation challenge awarded to John Sokol, KE4KPV.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:40 local time by President Chapman. ♦♦♦

## Techno Babble

You can't be cool if you're using outdated lingo. Here's the latest from the corporate and Silicon Valley jungles.

**"percussive maintenance"**  
the fine art of whacking a device to get it working

**"prairie dogging"**  
in companies where everyone has a cubicle -- something happens and everyone pops up to look

**"blowing your buffer"**  
losing your train of thought

**"yuppie food coupons"**  
twenty dollar bills from an ATM

**"beepilepsy"**  
afflicts those with vibrating pagers characterized by sudden spasms, goofy facial expressions and loss of speech. The editor suffers from this

**"cobweb"**  
a WWW site that never changes

**"high dome"**  
egghead, scientist, PhD

**"world wide wait"**  
WWW

**"treeware"**  
manuals and documentation

**"square headed girl/boyfriend"**  
computer

♦♦♦

## Work GARS

### REPEATERS

2-Meter 147.075 MHz <sup>+600</sup>  
PL 82.5  
70-cm 444.525 MHz <sup>+5MHz</sup>  
PL 156.7

**TELEPHONE BBS**  
GARS Conference in  
Scientific-Atlanta BBS  
(770) 903-6789

### PACKET

WD4JXR-6 / SNELLV Packet  
Node/Digipeater 145.03 MHz

### SWAP, WANTED & SELL NET

Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the  
GARS 2m Repeater.

**1200 Baud DX Cluster**  
Connect direct to K4JU  
or thru Snellv with 'DXC'

### MORSE CODE PRACTICE

An interactive Morse Code practice session follows the 8:00PM Tuesday night net on the GARS 2m repeater.

**PACKET RADIO USERS NET**  
Thursdays at 8:00 PM on the 2m Repeater.

♦♦♦



## ...Electricity

(Continued from page 7)

electric circuit: The electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again. This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely to make sure they have new electrons. In fact the last year any new electricity was generated in the United States was 1937; the electric companies have been re-selling it ever since, which is why they have so much time to apply rate increases. Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2,000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations on the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Vaporize Bulldozer" to "Delicate".

Now you can amaze your friends with the depth of your knowledge.

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Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

## FIELD DAY COBBLER BY EARL WHATLEY, KE4TXZ



We've had a request to reveal the secret\* recipe for the cobbler such as was prepared at field day. This desert is usually cooked outdoors in a dutch oven using charcoal, but it can be prepared at home. As you follow the instructions below, remember that it is usually prepared by 11 and 12 year old boys without the benefit of mom's expertise so you can imagine how exact the measurements have to be.

- Squirt some butter in the bottom of your dutch oven (or cobbler dish). It doesn't really matter how much.
- Dump two cans of pie filling into the oven. (The dutch oven - not your kitchen oven.)
- Spread a box of cake mix (white or yellow) over the pie filling.
- Squirt some butter over the top of the cake mix.
- Now bake it until its done.

The filling is already cooked so all you're cooking is the cake mix. I'd suggest about 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until the filling bubbles through the cake. If it isn't completely done the cake will be crisp on top and gooey underneath, and it will still taste great.

If you like a cobbler that is not so sweet, use canned or fresh fruit. Just be sure to drain the liquid off the canned fruit before you dump it.

(\*On some occasions where young scouts have tried this dish at home, mothers have requested that we keep the recipe secret.) ♦♦♦

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Rick, W4WYS, Mgr.  
1-800 at 22nd Ave. ramp

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(800) 954-8046  
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Exit 181 - I-95, So. to US 1  
at Victory Blvd

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1508 N. DuPont Hwy  
(302) 322-7082  
(800) 954-8046  
John, W4WML, Mgr.  
Exit 11 - I-95  
AT 13 1/4 mi. So. to I-95

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Prices, specifications, descriptions, subject  
to change without notice.

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IC-51A1/IC-51A2

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IC-721A, 2M

## ALINCO

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## KENWOOD

## HANDHELDS

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12V 100W w/ Auto Ant. Tuner  
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## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

## First Tuesday

## Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. Talk In -145.410(-)

## First TUESDAY

## Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta. Meeting begins at 7:30pm. Talk In 146.88(-)

## First Wednesday

## HamWatch

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

## First Thursday

## N.E. Ga ARC

Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In - 147.225(+)

## Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Power Federal Credit Union, 4900 Ashford Dunwoody Road, 1 Mile North of Perimeter Mall. Meeting is at 7:30PM Talk In -146.820(-)

## Second Wednesday

## North Fulton Radio League

Alpharetta Diner Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

## Second Thursday

## Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

## Second Saturday

## East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. Talk In - 145.410(-)

## 3rd THURSDAY

## Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins at 7:30 in the fellowship hall. Talk In-147.075(+)



Visit **GARS** On The World Wide Web

<http://www.gars.org>

Up to date information on club activities,  
officers, committees, announcements,  
**THE GARZETTE** Online, and much more.

Email suggestions for additions to  
[gtomlin@mindspring.com](mailto:gtomlin@mindspring.com) or [ad4pz@aol.com](mailto:ad4pz@aol.com)

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# THE GARZETTE

AUGUST, 97

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30226



**GARS meets the third Thursday of each month at Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be on August 21 at 7:30 P.M.**

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THE GARZETTE

AUGUST, 97

## Metro Atlanta Test Sessions

**GARS** Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Saturday - 9:00AM  
George White, KN4NG 361-6850  
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.  
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759  
Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd,  
Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC  
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Sunday- 2:30PM - ARRL VEC  
Steve Schmidt, KR4DL - 242-6142  
Episcopal Church of the Atonement  
Highpoint Rd, Atlanta

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville, GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM  
**GARS W5YI-VEC**  
**Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362**  
**St. John Neumann Church**  
**801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks**  
**Trickum Rd, Lilburn**  
**Headphones!**

## Metro Area Nets And Roundtables

Mon	147.21+	8:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Wed	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Packet Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Wed	146.655-	9:00PM	BSRG Net t-188.8
Thu	146.88-	8:00PM	Kennahoochie ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	Cable57	9:30PM	Amateur Television, ATV
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.76-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net t-107.2
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.76-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net t-107.2
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafras Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.